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Minnesota AgriView

Vol 19-03

March 5, 2019

MONTHLY PRICES

The December 2018 average price received by farmers for **corn** in Minnesota was \$3.40 per bushel. This was \$0.14 above the November price and \$0.42 above the December 2017 price.

The December 2018 average price received by farmers for **soybeans**, at \$8.54 per bushel, was up \$0.19 from the November price but down \$0.44 from the December 2017 price.

The December 2018 price for **spring wheat** was \$5.61 per bushel, up \$0.42 from November and up \$0.06 from December 2017.

All hay prices in Minnesota averaged \$140.00 per ton in December, up \$4.00 from the November price and \$29.00 per ton more than December 2017. The **alfalfa hay** price was \$155.00 per ton, down \$1.00 from November but \$34.00 above a year ago. The **other hay** price was \$112.00, down \$3.00 from November but \$30.00 above a year ago.

The December average price was \$16.30 per cwt for **milk**, down \$0.50 from November and down \$0.90 per cwt from one year ago. Prices received for **milk cows** for dairy herd replacement averaged \$1,050 per head as of January 1, 2019.

Prices Received by Farmers - Minnesota and United States

	Minnesota			United States		
	December 2017	November 2018	December 2018	December 2017	November 2018	December 2018
	(dollars)	(dollars)	(dollars)	(dollars)	(dollars)	(dollars)
Barley, allbu	4.32	(D)	(D)	4.38	4.78	4.68
Beans, dry ediblecwt	26.20	27.70	(S)	27.30	25.90	24.40
Cornbu	2.98	3.26	3.40	3.23	3.41	3.54
Hay, all baledton	111.00	136.00	140.00	137.00	161.00	164.00
Alfalfaton	121.00	156.00	155.00	149.00	175.00	180.00
Otherton	82.00	115.00	112.00	119.00	137.00	140.00
Oatsbu	1.97	2.61	2.35	2.94	2.72	2.77
Soybeansbu	8.98	8.35	8.54	9.30	8.37	8.57
Spring wheatbu	5.55	5.19	5.61	5.62	5.33	5.38
Sunflowers, allcwt	17.50	18.40	19.00	17.00	17.00	16.40
Milk, allcwt	17.20	16.80	16.30	17.20	17.00	16.40
Milk cows ^{1,2}head	1,400.00	1,050.00	1,050.00	1,520.00	1,230.00	1,140.00

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

¹ Animals sold for dairy herd replacement only. Prices available for January, April, July, and October.

² Milk cow prices are for January 1, 2018, October 1, 2018, and January 1, 2019.

Livestock Prices Received by Farmers - United States

	December 2017	November 2018	December 2018
	(dollars)	(dollars)	(dollars)
Calvescwt	174.00	169.00	166.00
Cattle, all beefcwt	118.00	113.00	117.00
Cows ¹cwt	62.00	52.70	51.80
Steers and heiferscwt	120.00	115.00	119.00
Hogs, allcwt	48.60	46.20	43.40
Barrows and giltscwt	48.80	46.30	43.60
Sowscwt	41.80	43.30	38.00
Eggs (market) ²doz	1.18	0.949	0.980

¹ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.

² Mid-month price. Also referred to as table eggs.

IN THIS ISSUE

Monthly Prices

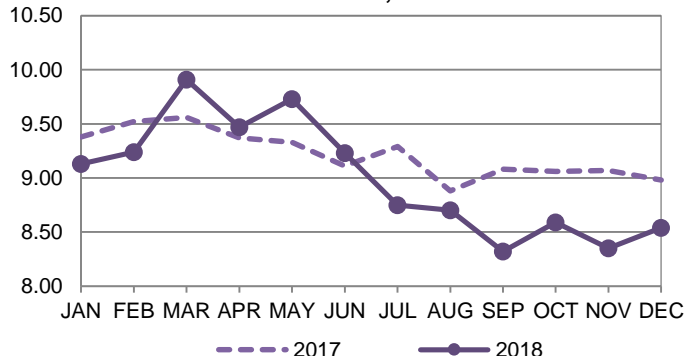
Cattle & Calves

Sheep, Lambs & Wool

Goats & Kids

Milk Production

Dollars per Bushel
Soybeans Price Received by Farmers, Minnesota, 2017-2018



CATTLE & CALVES

All cattle and calves in Minnesota as of January 1, 2019, totaled 2.32 million head. This was down 1 percent from January 1, 2018. **Beef cows**, at 370,000 head, were up 1 percent from last year. **Milk cows**, at 450,000, were down 1 percent from last year.

All heifers 500 pounds and over, at 520,000 head, were down 8 percent from last year. **Heifers for beef cow replacement** were down 5,000 head to 95,000 head; **heifers for milk cow replacement**, at 255,000 head, were down 12 percent from the previous year; and **all other heifers** were down 3 percent to 170,000 head.

Steers weighing 500 pounds and over were up 2 percent from last year to 485,000 head. **Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over** were unchanged at 35,000 head. **Calves under 500 pounds** on January 1, 2019, totaled 460,000 head, up 1 percent from last year.

The 2018 **calf crop** was estimated at 800,000 head, up 1 percent from 2017. **Cattle and calves on feed** for slaughter in all feedlots on January 1, 2019, totaled 410,000 head, down 5 percent from one year ago.

Cattle and Calves, Number by Class – Minnesota and United States: January 1, 2018 and 2019

Class	Minnesota			United States		
	2018	2019	2019 as % of 2018	2018	2019	2019 as % of 2018
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
All cattle and calves	2,350	2,320	99	94,298	94,760	100
All cows that have calved	820	820	100	40,898	41,119	101
Beef cows	365	370	101	31,466	31,766	101
Milk cows	455	450	99	9,432	9,353	99
Heifers 500 pounds and over						
For beef cow replacement	100	95	95	6,108	5,925	97
For milk cow replacement	290	255	88	4,768	4,702	99
Other heifers	175	170	97	9,341	9,604	103
Steers 500 pounds and over	475	485	102	16,528	16,633	101
Bulls 500 pounds and over	35	35	100	2,252	2,263	100
Calves under 500 pounds	455	460	101	14,401	14,515	101
Cattle on feed ¹	430	410	95	14,146	14,371	102

¹ Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better. Cattle and calves on feed are included in the cattle inventory estimates by classes.

Calf Crop – Minnesota and United States: 2017 and 2018

	Minnesota			United States		
	2017	2018	2018 as % of 2017	2017	2018	2018 as % of 2017
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
Calf crop	790	800	101	35,758	36,403	102

All cattle and calves in the United States as of January 1, 2019 totaled 94.8 million head, slightly above the 94.3 million head on January 1, 2018. All cows and heifers that have calved, at 41.1 million head, were 1 percent above the 40.9 million head on January 1, 2018. Beef cows, at 31.8 million head, were up 1 percent from a year ago. Milk cows, at 9.35 million head, were down 1 percent from the previous year.

All heifers 500 pounds and over as of January 1, 2019 totaled 20.2 million head, slightly above the 20.2 million head on January 1, 2018. Beef replacement heifers, at 5.92 million head, were down 3 percent from a year ago. Milk replacement heifers, at 4.70 million head, were down 1 percent from the previous year. Other heifers, at 9.60 million head, were 3 percent above a year earlier.

Steers weighing 500 pounds and over as of January 1, 2019 totaled 16.6 million head, up 1 percent from January 1, 2018.

Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over as of January 1, 2019 totaled 2.26 million head, up slightly from January 1, 2018.

Calves under 500 pounds as of January 1, 2019 totaled 14.5 million head, up 1 percent from January 1, 2018.

Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in the United States for all feedlots totaled 14.4 million head on January 1, 2019. The inventory is up 2 percent from the January 1, 2018 total of 14.1 million head. Cattle on feed in feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head accounted for 81.3 percent of the total cattle on feed on January 1, 2019, up slightly from the previous year. The combined total of calves under 500 pounds and other heifers and steers over 500 pounds (outside of feedlots) is 26.4 million head. This is 1 percent above January 1, 2018.

The 2018 calf crop in the United States was estimated at 36.4 million head, up 2 percent from last year's calf crop. Calves born during the first half of 2018 were estimated at 26.6 million head, up 3 percent from the first half of 2017. Calves born during the second half of 2018 were estimated at 9.80 million head, 27 percent of the total 2018 calf crop.

SHEEP, LAMBS & WOOL

All sheep and lambs inventory in Minnesota as of January 1, 2019, totaled 125,000 head, down 4 percent from 2018. Total **breeding stock**, at 90,000 head, was unchanged from a year ago. Compared with last year, **market sheep and lambs** decreased 12 percent to 35,000 head. The **lamb crop** for 2018 totaled 90,000 head. **Wool** production for the State was 640,000 pounds, down 9 percent from last year.

All sheep and lambs inventory in the United States on January 1, 2019 totaled 5.23 million head, down 1 percent from 2018. Breeding sheep inventory at 3.82 million head on January 1, 2019, decreased 1 percent from 3.87 million head on January 1, 2018. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.00 million head, were 1 percent below last year. Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2019 totaled 1.41 million head, up 1 percent from January 1, 2018. Market lambs comprised 94 percent of the total market inventory. Market sheep comprised the remaining 6 percent of total market inventory.

The 2018 lamb crop of 3.24 million head was up slightly from 2017. The 2018 lambing rate was 107 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2018, up 1 percent from 2017.

Shorn wool production in the United States during 2018 was 24.4 million pounds, down 2 percent from 2017. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 3.37 million head, down 2 percent from 2017. The average price paid for wool sold in 2018 was \$1.75 per pound for a total value of 42.8 million dollars, up 16 percent from 36.8 million dollars in 2017.

Sheep death loss during 2018 totaled 216 thousand head, up 1 percent from 2017. Lamb death loss increased 6 percent from 367 thousand head to 388 thousand head in 2018.

All Sheep and Lambs, Number by Class – Minnesota and United States: January 1, 2018 and 2019

Class	Minnesota			United States		
	2018	2019	2019 as % of 2018	2018	2019	2019 as % of 2018
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
All sheep and lambs	130.0	125.0	96	5,265.0	5,230.0	99
Total breeding sheep	90.0	90.0	100	3,865.0	3,820.0	99
Ewes	74.0	74.0	100	3,033.0	3,000.0	99
Rams	4.0	4.0	100	170.0	170.0	100
Replacement lambs	12.0	12.0	100	662.0	650.0	98
Total market	40.0	35.0	88	1,400.0	1,410.0	101

Lamb Crop – Minnesota and United States: 2017 and 2018

	Minnesota			United States		
	2017	2018	2018 as % of 2017	2017	2018	2018 as % of 2017
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(percent)
Lamb crop	90.0	90.0	100	3,230.0	3,235.0	100

Wool Production, Price and Value – Minnesota and United States: 2017 and 2018

Class	Minnesota			United States		
	2017	2018	2018 as % of 2017	2017	2018	2018 as % of 2017
Sheep shorn.....(1,000 head)	112.0	102.0	91	3,435.0	3,372.0	98
Weight per fleece.....(pounds)	6.3	6.3	100	7.2	7.2	100
Production.....(1,000 pounds)	700	640	91	24,810	24,400	98
Price per pound.....(dollars)	0.60	0.67	112	1.48	1.75	118
Value ¹(1,000 dollars)	420	429	102	36,774	42,772	116

¹ Production multiplied by marketing year average price. United States value is the summation of State values.

GOATS & KIDS

Meat and other goat inventory in Minnesota as of January 1, 2019, totaled 25,000 head, up 4 percent from January 2018. Total **milk** goat inventory, at 13,000 head, was down 7 percent from the previous year.

All goats and kids inventory in the United States on January 1, 2019 totaled 2.62 million head, down 1 percent from 2018. Breeding goat inventory totaled 2.15 million head, down 1 percent from 2018. Does one year old and older, at 1.60 million head, were 1 percent below last year's number. Market goats and kids totaled 474 thousand head, up 2 percent from a year ago.

Kid crop for 2018 totaled 1.64 million head for all goats, up slightly from 2017.

Meat and all other goats totaled 2.06 million head on January 1, 2019, down 1 percent from 2018. Milk goat inventory was 430 thousand head, up 2 percent from January 1, 2018, while Angora goats were down 5 percent, totaling 137 thousand head.

Mohair production in the United States during 2018 was 755 thousand pounds. Goats and kids clipped totaled 133 thousand head. Average weight per clip was 5.7 pounds. Mohair price was \$5.25 per pound with a value of 3.96 million dollars.

Goat Inventory – Selected States and United States: 2018 and 2019

	Milk Goats		Meat & Other Goats	
	2018	2019	2018	2019
	(head)	(head)	(head)	(head)
California.....	40,000	42,000	85,000	90,000
Iowa	31,000	32,000	40,000	37,000
Minnesota	14,000	13,000	24,000	25,000
Tennessee	7,500	7,000	96,000	89,000
Texas	29,000	27,000	765,000	740,000
Wisconsin ¹	67,000	72,000	(NA)	(NA)
United States	420,000	430,000	2,075,000	2,055,000

(NA) Not Available

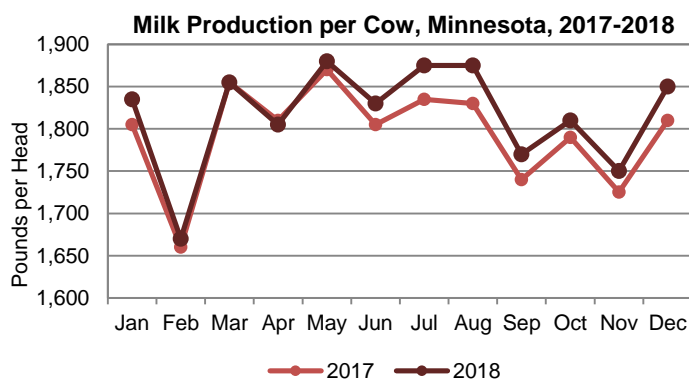
¹ Beginning in 2016, Meat and Other Goats for Wisconsin is no longer published individually. It is now included in the Other States total.

MILK PRODUCTION

Milk production in Minnesota during December 2018 totaled 833 million pounds, up 1 percent from the previous December. The average number of milk cows during December, at 450,000 head, was down 1,000 from last month and down 6,000 from last year. Monthly production per cow averaged 1,850 pounds, up 40 pounds from last December.

Milk production in the 23 major States during December totaled 17.1 billion pounds, up 0.9 percent from December 2017. November revised production at 16.4 billion pounds, was up 0.8 percent from November 2017. The November revision represented a decrease of 3 million pounds or less than 0.1 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,966 pounds for December, 23 pounds above December 2017. This is the highest production per cow for the month of December since the 23 State series began in 2003. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.72 million head, 21,000 head less than December 2017, and 2,000 head less than November 2018.

Milk production in the United States during the October - December quarter totaled 53.3 billion pounds, up 0.5 percent from the October - December quarter last year. The average number of milk cows in the United States during the quarter was 9.36 million head, 18,000 head less than the July - September quarter, and 41,000 head less than the same period last year.



Milk Cows and Production – Selected States: December 2017 and 2018

State	Milk Cows ¹		Milk Per Cow ²		Milk Production ²		
	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	Change from 2017
	(1,000 head)	(1,000 head)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(million pounds)	(million pounds)	(percent)
California	1,741	1,730	1,935	1,980	3,369	3,425	1.7
Idaho	600	614	2,010	2,060	1,206	1,265	4.9
Michigan	428	422	2,180	2,205	933	931	-0.2
Minnesota	456	450	1,810	1,850	825	833	1.0
New Mexico	332	325	2,075	2,060	689	670	-2.8
New York	625	625	1,950	1,990	1,219	1,244	2.1
Pennsylvania	525	505	1,735	1,695	911	856	-6.0
Texas	515	542	2,000	1,990	1,030	1,079	4.8
Wisconsin	1,276	1,271	1,990	2,025	2,539	2,574	1.4
23-State Total	8,736	8,715	1,943	1,966	16,978	17,133	0.9

¹Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. ²Excludes milk sucked by calves.